

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A metal stud and clip assembly for use in a non-load-bearing wall to allow a horizontal ceiling or floor to vertically float thereon, the assembly including in combination:

an elongated metal stud member having a generally U-shaped cross section including a main portion with first and second edges and having first and second side members attached, respectively, to the first and second edges of the main portion;

at least a first receiver attached to the main portion of the stud member and spaced inwardly a predetermined distance from the first and second side members; and

a clip member having a first portion for attachment to a surface located above the stud and having at least a first elongated stabilizing bar attached thereto and extending downwardly to slidably engage the first receiver on the stud member to allow relative vertical movement between the stud member and the stabilizing bar.

2. An assembly according to Claim 1 wherein first and second receivers are attached to the main portion of the stud member, each spaced inwardly a predetermined distance, respectively, from the first and second side members, and wherein the clip member has first and second elongated stabilizing bars attached thereto to slidably engage the first and second receivers, respectively, on the main portion of the stud member.

1 3. The assembly according to Claim 2 wherein the first and
2 second receivers are hollow, elongated parallel channels spaced
3 inwardly from the first and second side edges of the main portion
4 of the stud member and extending the length thereof.

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6 4. The assembly according to Claim 3 wherein the stud member
7 and the elongated channels are extruded from metal.

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9 5. The assembly according to Claim 4 wherein the clip member
10 has first and second parallel elongated stabilizing bars attached
11 thereto extending downwardly from the main portion thereof.

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13 6. The assembly according to Claim 1 wherein the first
14 receiver comprises an elongated hollow channel extending parallel
15 to the first and second edges of the main portion of the stud
16 member, and the stabilizing bar includes an elongated bar
17 dimensioned to slidably fit into the elongated channel on the stud
18 member.

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20 7. The assembly according to Claim 6 further including a
21 second elongated hollow channel on the main portion of the stud
22 member spaced from the first elongated channel and extending
23 parallel thereto, and a second elongated stabilizing bar attached
24 to the clip member dimensioned to slidably fit into the second
25 elongated channel on the stud member.

8. The assembly according to Claim 6 wherein the clip member comprises a generally U-shaped member having a flat main portion with downwardly turned ends for fitting into a mating track mounted above the location of the stud member, and wherein the stabilizing bar extends substantially perpendicularly downwardly from the main portion of the clip member.

9. The assembly according to Claim 1 further including a ceiling track extending along the length of the top of a non-load-bearing wall and including first and second spaced apart downwardly extending flanges for receiving the clip member, and further, third and fourth spaced apart downwardly extending flanges located outwardly, respectively, of the first and second downwardly extending flanges a distance sufficient to permit the passage of thickness of a standard wall covering therebetween, whereupon the third and fourth outwardly extending flanges are designed for receiving downwardly extending sections of wall covering for overlapping corresponding wall covering attached to the studs.

10. A method for installing a stud and clip assembly for use in a non-load-bearing wall to allow a horizontal ceiling or floor to vertically float thereon including the steps of:

providing a stud with a stabilizing bar receiving channel thereon parallel to the length thereof;

1 (Claim 10 continued)

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3 providing a mounting clip member with an elongated stabilizing
4 bar;

5 inserting the stabilizing bar into the receiving channel on
6 the stud for relative longitudinal sliding movement therein;

7 locating the stud and the clip member in position in a non-
8 load-bearing wall;

9 extending the clip member to a position for attachment to a
10 ceiling; and

11 attaching the clip member to the ceiling whereupon the
12 stabilizing bar holds the stud in position.

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14 11. The method according to Claim 10 further including the
15 step of providing a mounting track on the ceiling and wherein the
16 step of attaching the clip member to the ceiling comprises
17 attaching the clip member to the mounting track.

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19 12. The method according to Claim 11 further including the
20 step of attaching the bottom of the stud member to a floor prior to
21 attaching the clip member to the ceiling.

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23 13. The method according to Claim 10 further including the
24 step of attaching the bottom of the stud member to a floor prior to
25 attaching the clip member to the ceiling.

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